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VOL. XVII, NO. 51.

## GIVE THIS YOUR ATTENTION

DIGESTS OF THINGS AND EVENTS FROM DAY TO DAY.

Language of Foreign Countries Confirm Fact That United States Is Leading Capitalist Nation—Money Sharers Compel Clearing House to Go Back to the Law—The Howl of "Socialists and Anarchists" the Howl of "Stop Thief"—Anti-Trust Proceedings Etc.

Ex-Gov. \_\_\_\_\_, not a statesman. It was \_\_\_\_\_, only to attack Gov. Hughes' anti-race crusade by pointing out the fact that everybody gambles. That's true. But it was not a statesman's act to indulge his powers of satire at the expense of the social system which his party upholds. Yes, everybody gambles to-day. He does so because gambling and uncertainty is a feature of the capitalist system. People "gambble" for their living. Gambling, a vice like drunkenness, can not be eradicated by anti-gambling bills, but by anti-capitalist LAW.

Figuring the cost of a bowl of soup on the line of the unemployed at 2 cents, Miss Cornelius Harriman, the daughter of Harriman the railroad magnate, who wore at her marriage a "princess robe of pure white satin, having yoke and panels down the sides of old point de Venise, and wide sleeves of the same lace over short ones of chiffon," was married in 2,500,000 bowls of soup.

Interest is stronger than law, even with the "law-abiding" capitalist. A big railroad company, entering New York City, violated the law for two months by paying its employees in scrip, in denominations of tens, twenties and fifties, payable to the bearer. When all the scrip came in through the Clearing House, the Company discovered scrip to \$180,000 over the amount issued. The excess was counterfeited. Immediately thereupon the Company became law-abiding, and returned to a gold basis. Thus sharpers approved themselves the best police to keep a capitalist concern to the law.

The Ohio Hanna and his Ohio McKinley have found their successors in the Ohio Garfield and his Ohio Taft. The Ohio McKinley's Hanna announced McKinley as the "Advance Agent of Prosperity." Now the Ohio Taft's Garfield describes Taft at the Ohio Republican State convention in terms that warrant the announcement of Taft as the "Advance Agent of the Millions."

One Chicago man—who is said to have tried to kill one man, and in whose pockets, AFTER HE WAS DEAD, were found bow-knives, dynamite bombs, gatling guns, and bundles of "literature" of the most incendiary nature—is pronounced an "Anarchist and Socialist," and the affair is made the signal for a national assault on "Socialists and Anarchists." A bunch of Cleveland men—whose criminal money-making neglect has actually caused the death of 165 school children, and in whose pockets, THE BUNCH BEING ALIVE, are found the cash proceeds of the criminal negligence that brought on the catastrophe—are allowed to enjoy their souls and equally bloodstained gains in perfect peace, and the affair is the signal for a hypocritical display of capitalist charity.

"Let us labor for the enlightenment of the Socialists and Anarchists," said Dean McNulty of St. John's Church in the course of his funeral oration over the body of the priest Leo Heinrichs, whom an Anarchist assassinated in Denver. Not even the solemnity of the occasion was enough to chasten Dean McNulty's mind and save him from the slander of bracketing Socialists and Anarchists together. Anarchists need enlightenment, God knows! But no less in need of enlightenment are the Dean McNutlys, besides moral regeneration.

Can the age of sorceries and superstitions be said to be over when a "Prosperity Convention" is called to meet in Baltimore to bring about prosperity? A lot of uncouth savages beatng the tom-tom to dispel a sun eclipse, are not more backward in astronomy and, therefore, superstitions, than the delegates to the Baltimore "Prosperity Convention" are backward on the affairs of the day, and, therefore, superstitiously addicted to the belief that prosperity can be promoted by resolutions.

Impotent savages, shivering at every inch before supposedly "Omnipotent Nature" do not present a more pitiful aspect than did Senator Hopkins of Michigan in his speech on the panic. The ignorant savage looks at the scourings of Nature—pestilence, disease and plagues—as unavoidable evils. Senator Hopkins' attitude towards the infantries of the New York bank was one of sincere humility before the unavoidable scourges of capitalism.

Significant is the fact that Victor L Berger, the man who, on the National Executive Committee of the Socialist party, led the move to repudiate the International Congress position against "backward races," returns elected by his party membership at the top of the polls into the National Executive Committee. He received 5,004—nearly a thousand votes more than the next highest. The S.P. membership is said to exceed 30,000. Is it that that membership are wholly disorganized against reaction? Or is it that they like the thing?

When, two years ago, Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone were kidnapped from Colorado, Victor L Berger, of the alleged Social Democratic party, had a municipal campaign on. The working class was indignant at the Colorado outrage. But Berger advised a "suspension of judgment." He had "to be good" to catch votes. His business required that. Now that a false cry is raised against "Anarchy" and people are murdered or beaten up because they "look like Anarchists," Mr. Berger is again engaged in a municipal campaign in Milwaukee, and will probably "suspend judgment" once more to attract votes for his bondholding "Socialist" platform. Bonds are more precious than workers' lives.

The American Banana Company missed the psychologic moment. It brought suit against the United Fruit Company under the Anti-Trust act at the wrong time. The Anti-Trust act having been strained out of shape against Labor organizations, it must now, like a river that has overflowed its banks, slowly recede once more into the inoperative basin for which it was intended. The American Banana Company should have tried its game upon its more successful competitor, the United Fruit Company, a little earlier—at the season when the anti-Trust net river was beginning to overflow its banks. Now that the freshet "soaked it into Labor," and is robbing the wrong time to assault a "rested" capitalist interest. Of course, the Banana Concern was thrown out of court.

All that any tainted limb, or hollow pillar of capitalism need now to do to become interesting, and to have its taintedness or hollowness forgotten, is to sit down and write threatening letters to himself, and then telephone for the police. He will immediately be proclaimed a "marked man," and the object of a deep "Anarchist plot"—and will be able to proceed unmolested in his tainted career, or hollow posture.

Whether the obviously concerted moves from several of the A. F. of L. local central bodies, urging the A. F. of L. to call a national convention for the purpose of launching a National Labor Party, will materialize this year or not, such an apparition on the political-labor field of the land is in the cards. It is the inevitable result, on the one hand, of the demoralizing pure and simple politicianism of the Socialist party leadership, and, on the other hand, of the success that has, so far, accompanied that aggregation of pure and simple politicianism to hamper the growth of the I. W. W., and thereby to delay the day when the I. W. W. can project its own political party—the first political party strained through the loins of class-conscious revolutionary Unionism and, therefore, cast in the mold of the principles of the Socialist Labor Party—the only present clearly class-conscious political expression of Labor in the land.

The age of sorceries and superstitions be said to be over when a "Prosperity Convention" is called to meet in Baltimore to bring about prosperity? A lot of uncouth savages beatng the tom-tom to dispel a sun eclipse, are not more backward in astronomy and, therefore, superstitions, than the delegates to the Baltimore "Prosperity Convention" are backward on the affairs of the day, and, therefore, superstitiously addicted to the belief that prosperity can be promoted by resolutions.

## MODERN "WITCHES" HUNT

Lazarus Averbuch may have been an Anarchist. The story of Chief Shippy may be true. But certain it is that the "evidence" in the case, so far published, is of the fishiest. If Chief Shippy was assaulted he did what was right. But no one, who will refuse to allow his judgment to be stampeded, will fail to see in the present so-called chase after Anarchists something that vividly recalls the hunting of witches in the Dark Ages of superstition—with all the craftiness that lay behind the motives of the promoters thereof.

Begin with Chief Shippy's own story. He was greatly surprised to hear that anyone had called for him at his house in the evening. This "highly suspicious" circumstance put him on his guard. When Shippy opened the door the next morning to Averbuch and saw him, he looked to Shippy "like an Anarchist." The pictures one sees and descriptions one hears of Anarchists represent them as unkempt and wild looking men. The police accounts themselves of the man who "looked like an Anarchist" are to the effect that he was scrupulously neat and natty, a description totally at variance with that, given in the same report, of another "Anarchist who threatened the Mayor." This other "Anarchist" was shabbily dressed. According to Shippy's own story, no sooner had he concluded that the man to whom he

opened the door "looked like an Anarchist," than he fell upon him, "grabbed his arms and forced them behind his back." Of course, no one but an Anarchist would resent such brutal and sudden treatment. A tussle ensued. Shippy killed Averbuch. With the man's lips sealed his story was safely locked; moreover, after that anything could be found in his pockets—circumstances all of which "clearly denote an Anarchist plot to kill a Chief."

The fishy side of the affair does not end the subsequent instalments of the stories of the Chicago Police and the identities of the "Anarchist plot" are in line with the first. A policeman, in the act of using the telephone, accidentally makes a discovery. His line having become crossed with one over which someone else was talking, he overheard a man's voice say: "For God's sake, get out of town, they are on." What a curious coincidence. Thereupon, and guided by just those words, the policeman proceeded to the shop of the talker, and lo, there he found another "Anarchist or Socialist."

In the Dark Ages the burning of witches was brought about by just such methods. Some crafty fellow had an interest in playing upon popular credulity. The most incredible stories were set afloat. The more incredible, the more readily believed—and a witch was burned

in public, and somebody else, in private, had his account therein.

The Chicago reports bear all the evidence of credulous people being rattled by inventions from crafty sources. The circumstance that these yarns frequently couple Socialism with Anarchy, the further circumstance that from South and North, West and East reports come in announcing police intimidations of public meetings—all combine to justify the theory that the present outcry, raised against "Anarchists," is but a crafty campaign inaugurated against free speech, against popular and legitimate agitation to enlighten the people concerning the deplorable condition that one half at least of the speakers in Congress are at this very time declaring that the people find themselves in.

Socialism spurs Anarchy both in point of theory and in point of methods. The Socialist exorcitation of "Anarchy" is a logical result of the Socialist exorcitation of Capitalism—the breeder of Anarchy, being the simultaneous breeder of popular ignorance and popular suffering, which, like powder and fire in contact, produce blind explosion. But with all his detestation for Anarchy, the Socialist will not stand silent by without denouncing the infamy of re-galvanizing in modern shape the Dark Ages persecutions of "witches."

At last year's national Convention President Wohl spoke of the "peaceful and happy state toward which we are drifting," as evidenced by the decrease of conflicts between employers and the local unions. Further along in his report it develops that this "peaceful and happy state" is purchased by entering into "agreements" with the bosses. Some of the agreements are for a number of years, and when made for one year a continuing clause has been added, practically allowing the agreement to continue in force until such time as either party to it desires a change.

To the uninitiated, strange to relate, that, as President Wohl informs us, open shops that signed the agreement have "expressed their full satisfaction upon the change effected by them."

There was one proposition carried out at the Chicago convention last year which discounts all the rosy reports, and that was the proposition to establish a farm for consumptive members of the trade. One delegate asserted that "photo-engravers as a body are mainly young men," and held that "three-fourths of our members die from this cause" (consumption). Another delegate declared that there is a rapid increase of consumption among the members of the organization. It looks as though the "peaceful and happy state" toward which the photo-engravers are "drifting" is the consumptive farm or the grave.

The principal speech was made by Geo. Franklin. In opening he asked the workers what they were looking for and the men shouted, "Work!" "So am I," said Franklin, and proceeded with his talk. He told his hearers to not only look for jobs but to look to their jobs, and said that the Industrial Workers are organized for that purpose.

The workingmen and women and children are the producers of the world's wealth. Nothing can be produced or transported except Labor does the job and therefore Labor is entitled to the product of its efforts as a reward.

The capitalists unite to protect their interests, the workingmen are divided! We must all unite in a workingman's organization.

"Do not think that when the employer pays you your wages he pays you for the values you have produced. If you had received an equivalent you would not need to face hunger nor fear hard times."

The speech was listened to attentively throughout and deeply impressed the meeting. Most of those present nodded approval of the new kind of labor organization.

TROOPS LEAVE GOLDFIELD.

Newly Organized State Police Now "on the Job."

Goldfield, Nev., March 8.—The United States troops that have been in Goldfield for three months left their camp last night and turned the responsibility of maintaining peace in the Goldfield district over to the local police authorities and the Nevada State police.

Washington, March 8.—In accordance with orders issued at the War Department several weeks ago, the troops in Goldfield, Nev., which were sent there to help the mine owners issue scrip instead of money, will return to their posts on the Pacific Coast. The force consists of four companies of the Twenty-second Infantry in command of Col. Alfred Reynolds.

This individual contract is understood to provide for pay at the same scale as is now in effect, gives the men a schedule of ten hours, six days a week, and provides for only four holidays in the year.

# PEOPLE

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1908.

PRICE TWO CENTS ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

## RESOLUTION ON UNITY QUESTION

ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY AT ITS SESSION OF JAN. 6, 1908, AND REJECTED, WITHOUT CONSULTING THEIR MEMBERSHIP, BY THE BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS WHO DOMINATE THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY.

WHEREAS, The International Socialist Congress, held in Amsterdam in 1904, adopted under the title of "Unity of the Party" the following resolution:

The Congress declares:

"In order to give to the Working Class all its force in its struggle against Capitalism, it is indispensable that in each country there should be but one Socialist party against the Capitalist parties, just as there is but one proletariat.

"Therefore, all comrades and all factions and organizations which claim to be Socialist have the imperative duty to do all in their power to bring about Socialist Unity on the basis of the principles established by the International Congresses and in the interest of the International Proletariat, to whom they are responsible for the disastrous consequences of the continuation of their divisions.

"To help reach this aim, the International Bureau and all parties of Nationalities where Unity exists place themselves at their disposal and offer their good services."

WHEREAS, After this call was issued the various warring factions in the Socialist Movement of France—the Socialist Party of France, the French Socialist Party, the Revolutionary Socialist Labor Party and four Independent Socialist Federations of different parts of France—after some preliminary work of a Unity Conference, met in a joint Unity Conference in Paris and established the present Socialist Party (French Section of the Workers' International); and likewise, the warring factions in the Social Democratic Movement in Russia—the "majority" and "minority" factions of the Russian Social Democratic Labor Party, Lettish Social Democratic Labor Party and the General Jewish Labor Union of Russia, Poland and Lithuania (The Bund) met in a joint Unity Conference in 1906 at Stockholm, and organized the United Russian Social Democratic Labor Party; and,

WHEREAS, The experience of the Socialists of the above two countries, as well as that of other countries, where a united and developed party of Socialism exists, demonstrates—first, the possibility for all Socialists, recognizing the principles and decisions of the International Socialist Congress, to present with immensely increased effect a united solid front against the common enemy, the Capitalist, and to address a united, harmonious appeal to the Working Class which is so much more responsive when confusion, distrust and demoralization, created by internal strife and division in the Socialist camp are eliminated; and, second—demonstrates the possibility of such co-operation based upon the recognition of the right of minority divisions of a United Party, to advocate their particular views through their own publications, and their own minority delegations to National Conventions and International Congresses; and,

RESOLVED, That copies of these resolutions be sent to the National Headquarters of the Socialist Party of America, the International Socialist Bureau at Brussels, and the leading Socialist and Labor publications in the United States and other countries.

## MAY LOCK OUT MEN

Rio Grande Will Give Employees No Chance to Strike.

Denver, Colo., March 7.—A lockout may occur in the mechanical departments of the Denver & Rio Grande before a strike can take place, if the latest action of the company in reference to its men can be taken as an indication of its attitude. Printed contracts were submitted yesterday afternoon to all of the machinists, boilermakers, blacksmiths and car repairers in all of the shops on the system for them to sign if they should remain in the employ of the company after March 14. These contracts are to be made individually between each man and the company.

This individual contract is understood to provide for pay at the same scale as is now in effect, gives the men a schedule of ten hours, six days a week, and provides for only four holidays in the year.

Agents sending in subscriptions without remittance must state distinctly how long they are to run.

Agents are personally charged with and held responsible for unpaid subscriptions sent in by them.

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# IN MILWAUKEE

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY OUT IN INTEREST OF BONDHOLDERS.

A Platform, the First Plank of Which Demands More Bonds, and the Other Planks of Which Make Demands that Require Still More Bonds.

Milwaukee, Wis., March 1.—It is Berger's pride to point to his Wisconsin movement; and the Wisconsin movement being practically the Milwaukee S. D. P. machine, it will give outsiders a conception of what the Socialism of that machine and movement amounts to to sum up its recently adopted municipal platform. In view also of the fact that Berger is the one who made the motion before the S. P. National Committee to have the S. L. P. members join the S. P., or S. D. P. as individuals (in other words, a smooth way to avoid unity), and which motion was carried by the S. P. National Committee, that platform becomes all the more interesting.

The Social Democratic convention met on Saturday evening at the Freie Gemeinde Hall. Alderman E. T. Melius was elected chairman and C. P. Dietz, Secretary.

While waiting for the reports of the committees on credentials and rules, the candidates on the city ticket delivered speeches.

Charles V. Schmidt, candidate for Comptroller, in expressing his views on the campaign, stated that he thought "the Social Democratic Party to be a reform party for the betterment of the Working Class." At the conclusion of Mr. Schmidt's speech, Emil Seidel was called upon to make a speech. Seidel said in part:

"It is not the policy of our party to do anything detrimental to the industries of our city. When we are elected we will be fair towards all. Some time ago a business man who had some business with the Milwaukee aldermen said: 'Why, those Social Democratic aldermen are fair men to deal with.' These are compliments paid us by our enemies."

Seidel then discussed the issuing of bonds, side tracks, parks, playgrounds, cedar streets, and "How can we save the youth?" etc. Then the committees reported and the chairman appointed the following on the Platform Committee: Victor Berger, Emil Seidel, Charles V. Schmidt, Fred Brockhausen, Robert Huech, Frank Weber and Adolf Hirschman. A committee on resolutions was also appointed.

The following plank from the platform is typical of the rest in that it provides for more bonds for capitalists to invest in:

That the city secure the ownership and management of all public service enterprises as far and fast as the State laws will allow. We demand that the city be given power to take over such public industries as are now in private hands, by getting permission to raise the bond limit and by issuing bonds secured on the properties; and to inaugurate such new enterprises as the citizens, by a majority referendum vote, may approve.

The other planks provide for a large variety of things to be had free, and being impossible without further bonds, will require the issue of more bonds, and the victory of such a program the last clause of the platform pronounces a "Step Forward." It says:

"It is not claimed that by winning an isolated victory in a city like Milwaukee we can have Socialism. But such a victory would be a step forward, a milestone on the way of human progress."

Human progress?—Bondholders' progress is more accurate.

Victor Berger stated that he was confident of a Social Democratic victory April 8.

An Observer.

# LID ON FREE SPEECH

AUTHORITIES WILL PREVENT SOCIALIST AGITATION.

Organizers Campbell and Young of the Socialist Labor Party on the Situation—Roanoke Mayor Opposed to Street Meeting Because of Hard Times—Birmingham, Ala., Shows Hand.

Birmingham, Ala., February 23.—We have noticed reports in *The People* from different parts of the country telling of the suppression of free speech by the capitalist authorities. After making our experience in Richmond, Va., we have found that the capital-

ists are doing all in their power to prevent Socialist agitation during this industrial panic.

After we left Richmond we went to Roanoke. We called on the Mayor of Roanoke and told him of our intention of holding open air meetings. He told us plainly that he did not like the idea on account of these hard times, as so many people were on the streets and it might cause some excitement. He said he would rather let us have the town market hall, and he sent us to see the president of the City Council. This gentleman "saw" some of the other members of the council and they refused to let us have the hall. We then notified them of our intention of using the streets anyway. A spell of bad weather, however, prevented us from carrying out our plans.

Here in Birmingham, the "Pittsburgh" of the South, where 3000 machinists have joined the army of the unemployed, and where the panic is in full blast, we called upon the Mayor and stated our business. The Mayor of this southern city was very polite; he was extremely sorry, but there is a law against any such thing, and so we cannot use the streets. If we do we shall be jailed. That is the order of the day. The capitalist class is going to use brute force in these days of industrial depression.

It will be interesting to the Socialists throughout the country to watch, with the opening of this season's agitation, the antics of the ruling class in their efforts to throttle the propaganda of Socialism, and it should spur the militiamen of the land to be up and doing something.

J. P. Campbell,  
Frank Young.

# STRIKE IMMINENT

GOULD LINES DEMONSTRATE LOVE FOR LABOR.

After March 14 Unions in Car Department Will Be Ignored—Telegraphers' Wages Will Also Be Cut—Nine Hours Advanced as Company's Excuse.

Denver, Colo., Feb. 29.—The Gould Railway lines are giving their workingmen a practical lesson in Capital's love for its "brother" Labor. After a short conference yesterday with General Manager Ridgway of the Denver & Rio Grande system, a committee of the machinists employed on the system was informed that the company will abrogate its contracts after March 14, and after that date will not recognize the machinists', blacksmiths', car-repairers' or boilermakers' unions. A strike will be up and doing something.

Denver & Rio Grande and Rio Grande Western alone employ 350 machinists. It is claimed the men will not submit to the plan of the railroad company and that a general strike on all the Gould roads, excepting the International & Great Northern, is imminent. The machinists say the action of the company in working its employees only a few hours a day is arbitrary, and they say many engines and cars are now being operated which are unfit for travel because the company will not employ men to do the work.

The company also announced a sweeping reduction in the monthly wages of telegraph operators.

The Denver & Rio Grande Railroad company called a committee of the Order of Railway Telegraphers into Denver yesterday and while there submitted a new schedule of wages to the operators employed on the system from Denver to Ogden, Utah, which, if made effective, will cut the wages of these employees to \$60 and \$65 per month. The railroad company explained the reduced wage scale by saying that the observance of the new nine-hour law which goes into effect March 4 makes a cut necessary. The union committee sees that it is up against the game again. After making an uphill fight for the nine-hour law, it finds itself attacked on another flank.

To secure the DAILY PEOPLE regularly ORDER it from your newsdealer. As the paper is not returnable, your newsdealers must have a STANDING ORDER for it, or else they will not get it for you. INSIST ON GETTING IT.

It seems as though many people and especially working people refuse to think when the times are "good." We Socialists have been telling you about this present order of things, with its panics, its crises, its cruelties and abnormalities for many years past. You, however, would not listen. You said the Socialists are a lot of cranks and calamity howlers. You pinned your faith to such men as Roosevelt, Bryan, Hearst, Hughes, Taft, Cleveland, and other more or less famous and infamous citizens.

Now things are different and many of you realize that the Socialists knew what they were talking about and many of you have lost faith in the old prophets and misleaders.

Where are all these champions of the "common people" to-day? What measures are they advocating for the relief

# HARD TIMES

By Charles Ufer.

Mr. Workingman!

Have you ever stopped to think why the times should be hard, why there should be scarcity of employment, why the industries should be idle and business at a standstill?

Don't you recall that but a few months ago the newspapers, the "captains of industry," the politicians, the "wise" statesmen, the financiers and the President, were all singing the song of unprecedented prosperity? Some of these wiseacres even went so far as to declare that there was "too much prosperity" and that the nation was virtually glutted with an overabundance of everything.

Listen to the different song that is sung now! Look into these same newspapers that told of the enormous prosperity; look about you, and what do you find, what do you read, and what do you hear? No longer is the song of prosperity sung, but the dismal chant of "hard times" is heard on all sides.

In every large city in this wide nation the unemployed, and this means the hungry and the suffering, can be counted by the thousands. Privation, want and misery is the lot of many hundred thousands of workers and their families.

What a most remarkable transformation in the short time of four months! Only recently tales of mighty and boundless prosperity, plenty of work and not enough workers. Now—"hard times," lack of work, and more workers than can be used.

This is a most serious situation, Mr. Workingman. Don't you think so too?

Can we ask you to turn your thoughts from Thaw trials, horse racing, prize fighting, baseball and Presidential messages long enough to consider this most remarkable situation, its cause and its probable cure?

The Present Panic.

We are told that the present panic differs from those of the past. We are told that there is actually no "over-production" of goods and that the immediate cause of the trouble arose from the money stringency.

Whatever the cause may be, and we will discuss that later on, the simple fact remains—that many thousands of workers and their families are suffering. Many are being compelled to taste of the cup that does not cheer, the bitter and galling cup of so-called "charity."

A great many of you were under the delusion that panics and hard times were liable to come only under a Democratic President. You never could see it was just as likely to happen under the rule of such a profoundly wise statesman as full dinner-pail Theodore. Alas! another of your most cherished delusions is gone and the most dismal kind of "hard times" stares you in the face at this time.

If you are lucky enough to have a job, you surely know of some relative, or of some friend who has been out of a job for some time and you have heard or have experienced how very difficult it is to procure work of any kind. Or if you have not heard of the scarcity of work, you have certainly heard or learned of the cutting of wages, you have heard that more people are leaving these shores and of a smaller number coming to them. This, if nothing else, is a proof of the prevailing panic and depression.

We really can not see such a very big difference between the present panic and those that preceded it. The suffering of the people seems as acute.

Prices of the necessities of life are higher than they ever were and this means additional hardships for the jobless worker. The charity that is doled out at the free soup kitchens and at the charity bureaus is just as "bitter" as ever; the poorly clad and homeless worker must shiver as much as ever, and to all appearances the present era of "hard times" is as hard, and as cruel, and as abnormal—aye, even more abnormal and more unnecessary than any other era of hard times that has cursed the people of this country in the past.

Time to Think.

It seems as though many people and especially working people refuse to think when the times are "good." We Socialists have been telling you about this present order of things, with its panics, its crises, its cruelties and abnormalities for many years past. You, however, would not listen. You said the Socialists are a lot of cranks and calamity howlers. You pinned your faith to such men as Roosevelt, Bryan, Hearst, Hughes, Taft, Cleveland, and other more or less famous and infamous citizens.

Now things are different and many of you realize that the Socialists knew what they were talking about and many of you have lost faith in the old prophets and misleaders.

of the vast army of unemployed? What legislation are they enacting in order to help you out of your distressing situation? What explanation do these profoundly "wise" and "deep" statesmen offer for the wonderful transformation from unprecedented prosperity to unprecedented misery? Are the "champions of the common people" falling over themselves in an effort to come to your aid?

One of these great men, Presidential aspirant and mouthpiece of the only Theodore, answered our self-imposed queries not so many weeks ago at a meeting held in Cooper Union, New York. Mr. Taft's answer is so characteristic of the capitalist politicians' attitude that it may answer for all the rest. Said the mighty Taft, upon someone in the audience asking what the unemployed were to do in these "hard times," — God! knows, they have my deepest sympathy! Isn't that a splendid chunk of statesmanlike wisdom? Isn't it profound?

To us it would appear and it should

so appear to any thinking man or woman, that in times such as these, our leading statesman and our "leading" newspapers, our leading financiers and our leading captains of industry, and our leading trade union leaders exhibit their profound ignorance, their shallowness, their hypocrisy and incompetency to do any leading whatsoever. In times such as these it becomes so plainly evident that things are radically wrong with the present social order that only the most profoundly stupid and the most profound fakirs dare not affirm this fact.

The Capitalist Order.

To begin with, the present order is no "order" at all; it's a most violent and a most chaotic disorder. Students of political economy merely refer to it as an "order" for the sake of some designation. You must not for a moment imagine that we consider the present social order an "order" or in order when we use the term; it is used merely in its historical sense.

If you will consider for a moment the aspect of things under the present capitalist regime, you must agree that there is nothing orderly under it at all.

Consider the following FACTS carefully: Last fall we were told by our "leading" newspapers and by our "leading" statesmen, that the crops on the farms of this country were never better or more abundant. This, of course, meant that there would be plenty of the necessities of life for everyone. The published statistics substantiated the assertion of the statesmen and of the press. Again we were told that the wealth of the country was greater than ever before—therefore everybody was prosperous and could purchase all the necessities of life that were required.

Capitalists and their henchmen favor the continuance of the present order because it enables that class to sit upon the backs of the workers. They do not feel the effect of "hard times" as do the workingmen.

The Old Parties.

The chief instruments in keeping the workers in perpetual ignorance are the old political parties and their mouthpieces—the press, the pulpit, the politicians, and other Pharisees.

It is delusions, false economics, corrupt morals and childish beliefs.

Consider just for a moment the aspect of things at this time. What are these political parties doing for the people. They call themselves the "people's servants" and the stewards of the people's interests, yet when the people come to ask them for work and bread, they order their hired slugs to bat the people over the head, as was instanced a few weeks ago at the unemployed parade in Chicago.

Look at the helplessness of the dominant political parties in these times that demand courageous men, who know what to do in an emergency. These parties offer no hope; they present only an attitude of helplessness to the workers.

When some one in China, or in Japan, or in South America, or somewhere else punches a "free" American citizen on the nose or kidnaps an American millionaire, the President is apt to call an extraordinary session of Congress and the navy and army is likely to be sent to the rescue of the "free" American citizen. An incident such as this affords the statesmen an opportunity to talk "big" about the flag, our "glorious" institutions, our mighty navy and army, our national honor and kindred other things that delight the gullible and enables the "leading" newspapers to sell numerous "extras" with the big scare headings.

When, however, through the mismanagement and incompetency of our captains of finance and industry, and of "statesmanship," things are hopelessly bungled and "hard times" falls to the lot of the American workingman "at home," then the papers report of people committing suicide owing to the lack of work. When men and women and children roam through our cities, hungry and gaunt, when they lack proper nourishment, proper clothing, and the price of a night's lodging—then, "God knows," they receive the "deepest sympathy" of the greatest of these statesmen.

Yes, Mr. Workingman, they owe you this explanation, but they dare not or they cannot give it to you.

The Explanation.

Socialists have, for many years back, been explaining the peculiarities of this peculiar capitalist order. The capitalists and their hired men don't like the Socialists either. They call them "undesirable citizens" because Socialists have a habit of warring on their most desirable

order," which when stripped of its fine feathers, of its thin varnish and tinsel, stands revealed as the most hideous and ugly kind of a disorder and social monstrosity.

Socialists declare that the cause of this panic, the present era of "hard times," is due to the same general causes that have produced other panics. Planlessness in production, inequality in the distribution of labor's products, private ownership of the land and the means of production, distribution and exchange—these things are the real cause of hard times.

Private ownership of what the people require in order to live—is the very kernel of the whole situation.

The capitalist class own the means of production.

The working class must use the means of production in order to live.

The capitalist class every now and then says to the workers: "We have no work for you, there are no orders, you are laid off until things pick up."

What does this prove?

It proves that the capitalist class is incompetent to regulate production that it may be carried on uninterruptedly. It proves that the capitalist order gets out of order very easily, and when it does get out of order, hardships falls to the lot of workers and their loved ones first.

Cries and hard times are inseparable from the present order. They come to point out to the masses of the people that the capitalist system is injurious to the best interests of the majority and that it, like any other system of private ownership of land and social tools, only benefits small minority.

"Hard times" are very undesirable. We will all readily admit that proposition, but they come and will keep on coming until society recognizes that their origin lies in the very nature of the present system and that they can only be done away with by abolishing this system.

The Socialists and the more far-seeing members of the labor union movement are therefore unalterably opposed to the continuance of the present form of society.

Capitalists and their henchmen favor

the continuance of the present order because it enables that class to sit upon the backs of the workers. They do not feel the effect of "hard times" as do the workingmen.

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# THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM

A FEW OBSERVATIONS ON IT FROM A SOCIALIST STANDPOINT.

The social system under which we are living is properly called the capitalist system. It is so called because the capitalist class, by reason of its ownership of the means of production and distribution, is the overwhelmingly dominant power in society—the nation, as an organization. Let us explain further. No doubt in your town, as in every other city, there are great manufactures where wealth is created. It may be the making of feather trimmings for bonnets, or it may be great steel plates for ocean liners; it may be toothpicks that are produced, or it may be palace cars. Railroads and steamboats distribute this wealth. Coal mines, iron mines, forests and fields, all these in some manner enter into the production of the article, or as it is properly called—the commodity. These factories, mines, railroads, steamboats, etc., the means for the production of wealth, are called CAPITAL.

Looking a little further we find that the capital of the nation is owned by a very few, a mere handful of the population, and when you consider that this small fraction of the people own absolutely, as their own private property, ALL the means whereby the rest of us must obtain food, clothing and shelter, you can realize the power they have over us. Because it owns the capital of the nation, this handful of the people is called the CAPITALIST CLASS.

Now, all this capital would be absolutely useless to the capitalist class, if it depended on that class to create wealth. But the fact that the rest of us must eat and be clothed and sheltered—or die, compels us to go to the capitalist, and create for him great volumes of wealth, and out of the wealth we have created he gives us a pittance in return, called WAGES. The rest of the wealth he keeps, and it is called PROFIT, but the proper term should be Wealth Stolen From Labor. Those of us, the great bulk of the nation, who own nothing but our ability to work, or, as the Socialist calls it, labor power, are called the WORKING CLASS.

There is another class, the MIDDLE CLASS. It, however, is rapidly being exterminated. It is depressed by the small shopkeeper, and cokeroach business man, who sell to the workers at an advance of from fifty to one hundred percent, the products of their own labor. Capitalism in the shape of department stores is driving the little retailer to the wall, and the little factory stands no chance in competition with the gigantic enterprise. As the middle class are driven out of business they fall into the ranks of the wage workers.

The capitalist class attempts to justify its existence by claiming that it returns to society full value for all that it receives. It claims to possess all the brains of the country, calls its members "Captains of Industry," and tells the working class that without the "direction" of the capitalist the working class wouldn't be able to provide for its own wants.

They tell us that under such a social system no one would work, and everything would go to the deminimis bow-wow. Let us ask you for instance: Do you think you would be less inclined to work, when you know that you would have all that you produce, than you are at present when three-fourths of what you produce is stolen from you?

Another thing. You have probably passed through a period of what is called "hard times" or a crisis. The generally tough time of the worker is usually much worse at such periods. Do you know what causes them? They are caused by the fact that you, the worker, pile up more wealth for the capitalist than he can dispose of. Then he says: "I will close up my factory until this pile goes down. You can starve meanwhile, if you can't find another capitalist whom you are glad to have exploit you." Now, if the people, as a whole, owned the capital of the nation and produced wealth for their own use, not for the capitalist's profit, can you imagine a state of affairs in which they would be foolish enough to say: "We have produced too much wealth, therefore we must stop production and starve. We have produced too much clothing; we will have to go naked for a while." Well, that is what is done to-day. When the workers have produced more than the capitalist can get rid of, he says "Stop!" and the "over-production" is his and so are the tools that produced it. Civilization is threatened by the longer continuation of the capitalist system, with all its evils. If you would intelligently aid in bringing about a change in conditions read up on Socialism, then go to work to bring it about.

As for profits being the "Wages of Superintendence," as we have just shown the capitalist is an idle class. Take any big capitalist that you have heard of, J. P. Morgan, for instance. He was in Europe the greater part of the summer, did anything here in which he has an interest close down, because "Superintendent" Morgan was away! Did the Steel Trust surcease moulder when Charley Schwab was doing a little "superintending" at the Monte Carlo gaming table? While Carnegie is "superintendent" a tally-ho coach in the Scottish Highlands, do his works shut down? "Superintendence," indeed! Half the capitalists never see the properties in which they are stockholders. It passes as a joke that Charley M. Depew can't

## R.R. BROTHERHOOD

Men Are Being Promoted Downward  
—Slowly Realizing Necessity of Different Organization.

Spokane, Wash., February 29.—In traveling to this city I had occasion to interview different members of the railway brotherhoods, and herewith relate some of the conditions told me by the men.

As I came from Portland and stopped at every division point along the line I came in contact with a goodly number of the "aristocrats of labor" that have the fortune, or misfortune, of working on the Northern Pacific Railroad.

In Ellensburg, Wash., while conversing with a fireman, a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Trainmen, I was informed that he had been laid off on that day and that a former engineer had taken his place. This made me curious, and as this fellow seemed very bitter against the different brotherhoods it was very easy to obtain information.

He stated that since the "financial flurry" the Northern Pacific had reduced forces in every department on the Pacific division, and this policy no doubt prevails on the entire line. Men who were formerly employed as locomotive engineers are at the present time working in the capacity of firemen. Firemen have replaced the despised "wipers" and roustabouts in the roundhouses. Some conductors have been degraded to "vulgar" brakemen. But how about the men who could not obtain employment of any kind? The fact remains that they are still residents of this earth and as such they must satisfy their physical wants.

My informant made the remark that although he was a resident of Ellensburg he had, as he termed it, refused to scab upon the men who worked twelve hours a day in the roundhouses for a meager wage of \$1.75 a day.

I asked him if his union had not attempted to better the conditions and this was his answer: "The railroad men's unions are all right for giving petty benefits, collecting dues and giving dances, but that's all."

He had never heard of the Industrial Workers of the World, but upon being told the principles that it stands upon and propagates to the workers, he agreed that it is the only logical way that labor can achieve anything.

A brakeman who had stood close by and listened to our conversation here informed me that for the month of January he had received as wages but \$46, and he had a regular run on trains No. 53 and 54. I wonder how much the extras received.

There are many of their kind, men plying every vocation, who are disgusted with the old forms of trades unions but who have not been reached by our propagandists. This is the time to push the propaganda into the midst of the workers in the transportation service as they now have the time necessary to read and reflect.

Godfrey Anderson.

## ON SHORT TIME

The Nutting Truck Company Cuts the Workers to 48 Hours per Week.

Fairbank, Minn., March 4.—The Nutting Truck Company of this city, manufacturers of trucks for handling merchandise, and employing anywhere from 18 to 25 men, last Monday reduced the hours of its help to 48 hours a week, from 60 hours with 8 hours pay per day.

Two car loads of trucks were refused by a St. Louis firm the other day, it being claimed that the firm there could not use them owing to the business depression.

Not long ago the Nutting Truck Company purchased with the surplus wealth produced by its wage slaves, several hundred acres of hard wood timber, and a \$5,000 automobile, while the slaves from whom these things were exploited, have been paid wages barely enough to exist on.

## JOHN H. MURPHY DEAD.

Denver, Colo., March 4.—John H. Murphy, general counsel for the Western Federation of Miners, and also general counsel for the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, died of consumption at his home in this city last night after a lingering illness.

John H. Murphy, during the recent trial at Boise, Idaho, of William D. Haywood, accused of conspiracy in the murder of Governor Steunenberg, had himself carried into the courtroom in order to assist in the Haywood defense. At the time Murphy was in a dying condition.

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# THE FACTORY SYSTEM

GHASTLY HORRORS OF WORKING CLASS LIFE IN ENGLAND AFTER THE INVENTION OF ARKWRIGHT'S LOOM.

From Blackwood's Magazine, Vol. XXIII.

(Continued from Feb. 22.)

morals," that the factory-system, by its unnatural labors, dulls and deadens those affections in the hearts of the poor, which this man of experience and wisdom so truly and beautifully describes?

Dr. Farre was in his youth engaged in medical practice in the West Indies—in the island of Barbadoes. He informs us, that here the labor of children and very young persons consisted in exercising them in gathering in the green crops for the stock—not in digging or carrying manure. Such long continued labor as that by which the children in our factories are enslaved, would not have been credited in Barbadoes. The employment of the Negro children was used only as a training for health and future occupation. Perhaps the selfishness of the owners saved them from sacrifice. Be it so. Here the selfishness of the employers sends them to sacrifice. Dr. Farre boldly speaks the truth—"In English factories every thing which is valuable in manhood, is sacrificed to an inferior advantage in childhood. You purchase your advantage at the price of infanticide; the profit thus gained is death to the child."

Dr. Kaye, referring to the frequent allusions that have been made to the supposed rate of mortality in Manchester, as the standard by which the health of manufacturing population may be ascertained, well observes that from the mortality of towns their comparative health cannot be invariably deduced. For there is a state of physical depression which does not terminate in total organic changes, which, however, converts existence into a prolonged disease, and is not only compatible with life, but is proverbially protracted to an advanced senility.

But Mr. Sadler goes into the very heart of his melancholy subject, and compares the proportion of those buried under and above the age of forty in Manchester (that part of it in which the registered burials are given together with the age of the interred) with the corresponding interments of the immensely larger cities of London and Paris. What are the results? To every 100,000 interments under forty, there would be above that age in London 63,666, in Paris, 65,100; in Manchester only 47,201—in other words, 16,374 fewer would have survived that period in Manchester, than in London, and 17,818 fewer than in Paris. The operative spinners complain that few of them survive forty! It is quite true. Calculating the mean duration of life from mortality registers, it is in London about 32 years, in Paris 34, in Manchester 24 1-10 years only! In other towns where the same system prevails it is still less; in Stockport, it is 22 years only, that town not having increased as rapidly as Manchester from immigration.

We have already touched incidentally on the cruelties perpetrated in the factories. What is a billy-roller? A billy-roller is a heavy rod from two to three yards long, and of two inches diameter, with an iron pivot at each end. Its primary and proper function is to run on the top of the corduroy over the feeding cloth. Its secondary and improper function is to rap little children "on the head" making their heads crack, so that you may hear the blow at a distance of six or eight yards, in spite of the din and rolling of the machinery." Mr. Whitehead, clothier at Salford, near Holmfirth, a most respectable and trustworthy man, tells the Committee, that often when a child, so fatigued as not to know whether it is at work or not, falls into some error, the billy-spinner takes the billy-roller and says, "Damn thee, little devil, close it," and then smites it over the head, face or shoulders. It is very difficult, he adds, to go into a mill in the latter part of the day—particularly winter, when the children are weary and sleepy—and not to hear some of them crying for being thus beaten. A young girl has had the end of a billy-roller jammed through her cheek; and a woman in Holmfirth was beaten to death. We have been taking another glance over the cruelties, as described by scores of witnesses, not a few of whom had been sufferers, but any detailed account of them would be sickening—so we refrain. Suffice it to say, that unless the witnesses be all liars of first magnitude, the billy-roller is in active employment in many factories—that black strap is at frequent work in them all—that cuffs from open and blows from clenched hands are plentiful as blackberries—that samples are shown of every species of shaking—and that there is no dearth of that, perhaps, most brutal of all beastly punishment, kicking.

The contagion of vice spreads from the factories. They are, many of them, nurseries of prostitution. In bad times—and how long is it since they have been good?—in bad times, which are, like demons' visits, many and short between—shoals are sent into the streets, to shame, sin, and death. So says the evidence—and is it possible to disbelieve it? That evil is in the Factory System; and, alas! in many a system besides. It is, therefore, to be denied, overlooked, let alone, given up as hopeless! God forbid we should calumniate the poor creatures—we but believe in sorrow what their parents have told us;—and we do not, like Mr. Mill, call on "legislation," or the "powerful agency of popular sanction," to "direct an intense degree of disapprobation" on such sufferers and sinners; but we call on both to do what they can for their protection from such woe and such wickedness.

To be billy-rolled or strapped, after perhaps having been bucketed for falling asleep is bad to endure; still it seems

to be insensate matter that gives the pain—wood or leather. A blow from the fist is hateful; yet the hand being in common use, the degradation is not in such cases utter. The boy wipes his bloody nose, and he forgives the fist of the overseer. But a foot—a large, stinking, splay-foot—flung suddenly out "with a fung," ere a boy has time by crouching to elude or supplicate, savage as it is, is yet more insulting, and sends to the core of the heart the shame of slavery, that can be extinguished but by undying hatred and deadly revenge. We wonder there are no murders. But what if the kicked be a girl? We do not mean a little girl, eight or ten years old, for that is not the precise kind of brutality we are thinking of in kicking to such a one as she; the worst in her case is, that it may kill her on the spot, or make her a cripple for life. We mean a girl who, approaching to puberty, and in those heated regions they soon reach it, has something of the pride of sex, perhaps of beauty; and in presence of her sweetheart, she herself being chaste and not immodest, and many such there are even in factories, feels her whole being degraded beneath that of a brute-beast, in her person suddenly assailed by such shameful outrage from the hoof of a fiend grinning the while like a satyr. Mr. Sadler—exhibiting some black, heavy, leather thongs, one of them fixed in a sort of handle, the smack of which, when struck upon the table, resounded through the House—exclaimed: "Sir, I should wish to propose an additional clause in this bill, enacting, that the overseer who dares to lay, the lash on the almost naked body of the child, shall be sentenced to the tread-mill for a month; and it would be right if the master, who knowingly tolerates the infliction of this cruelty on abused infancy, this insult on parental feeling, this disgrace on national character, should bear him company, though he roll to the house of correction in his chariot." A month in the tread-mill! Why, many a dishonest fellow gets that and more for picking a bumblebee's fob of his watch, or the pocket of his great-coat for a purse at the door of a theatre. The man who kicks a girl must not be suffered to pollute the steps of a tread-mill, or to violate the feelings of vagrants. He must be flogged privately and publicly, his raw back denied plaster—his head shaved—and his carcass clothed in some ingeniously ignominious dress, of a substance suited to be spit upon, and a board adjusted to his posterior, that his life may not be sacrificed by the continual kicking legalized by the legislative wisdom of the State, nor yet the feet of its inflictors soiled by contact with the shameful parts of his constitution."

If there be truth in the account we have thus far given of the Factory System, what must be the morality—we mean the immorality of the boys and girls! Mr. Drake, a worthy manufacturer, says: "So far as I have observed with regard to morals in the mills, there is everything about them that is disgusting to every one conscious of correct morality. Their language is very indecent; and both sexes take great liberties with each other in the mills, without being at all ashamed of their conduct." Another witness says: "They are immoral in all their conduct. Going to the factories is like going to a school, but it is to learn everything that is bad." Mr. Benjamin Bradshaw, a witness of great intelligence, and a pious man, a preacher among the Methodists, says: "They are, generally speaking, ignorant and wicked, proverbially so; to hear them in the factory, and see their conduct, would move anybody with commiseration that had anything like a feeling of concern for the morals of his fellow-creatures; they are, in general, bad to an extreme." But here the details are far more painful than of the cases of cruelty, and some of them truly horrible. Many factories are the worst of brothels. Fathers wept before the Committee, thinking of their own daughters. The contagion of vice is in the heated and huddled factory is dreadful and the disease is rank among very childhood.

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Stupidly, injuriously, the law forbids usury in money, but not usury which for

the blood of life; not the usury which for

the wages of a child anticipates and exhausts the energies that should have

made the man, stunting into dwarfishness or decrepitude what would otherwise be the hale, healthy being. The law will not permit the infant heir to squander his estate, but it sees without interference the poor child whose only inheritance is labor, making ruin of his future self, and that not in reckless enjoyment, but in present misery.

We have instanced the case of the male sufferers, but the females, girls of the tenderest ages, are victims of the same system, and with the same cruel consequences.

(The End.)

## SECTION CALENDAR.

Under this head we shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements. The charge will be five dollars a year for five lines.

Section San Francisco, Cal., S. L. P. Headquarters, Hungarian Socialist Federation, Lettoman Socialist Labor Federation, 883 McAllister street.

Los Angeles, Cal., Headquarters and public reading rooms at 409 East Seventh street. Public educational meetings Sunday evenings. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

Section Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P., meets every alternate Sunday at 356 Ontario street (Ger. Am. Bank Bldg.) top floor, at 3 P. M.

Headquarters Section Cincinnati, O. S. L. P., at 1414 Race street. General Committee meets every second and fourth Thursday. German, Jewish and Hungarian educational meetings every Wednesday and Sunday. Open every night.

S. L. P., at I. W. W. Hall, 12th and Jackson streets. General Committee meets every second and fourth Thursday. German, Jewish and Hungarian educational meetings every Wednesday and Sunday. Open every night.

Section Spokane, Wash., S. L. P. free reading room 110 Bernard st. Visiting comrades, I. W. W. members and all others invited. Business meetings every Sunday morning at 11 a. m.

Section Allentown, Pa., S. L. P., meets every first Saturday in the month at 8 p. m. Headquarters 815 Hamilton street.

Section Providence, R. I., 81 Dyer st., room 8. Regular meetings second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

New Jersey State Executive Committee, S. L. P.—J. C. Butterworth, Secretary, 110 Abbott ave., Paterson; A. Lesig, Financial Secretary, 266 Governor street, Paterson, N. J.

Chicago, Illinois.—The 14th Ward Branch, Socialist Labor Party, meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday, 2 p. m. sharp, at Friedmann's Hall, S. E. corner Grand and Western avenues. Workingmen and women are cordially invited.

Section Seattle, S. L. P., headquarters, free reading room and lecture hall, No. 2000 Second avenue. P. O. address, Box 1040.

Section Salt Lake, Utah, meets every Wednesday, 8 p. m., Rooms 4 and 5, Galena Block, 69 East 2nd St. Free Reading Room. Weekly People readers invited.

All communications intended for the Minnesota S. E. C. should be addressed to Otto Olson, 310 7th ave., St. Minneapolis, Minn.

Section St. Paul, Minn., S. L. P. holds a business meeting every second Sunday in the month at 10 a. m. at Federation Hall, cor. 3rd and Wabash streets.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1908.

So long as life is a scene of uncertainties, the hope of yesterday blighted by the realities of to-day, man is the maker of expedients, but not of laws.

—DRAPER.

THE SOCIAL ST. VITUS'S DANCE.

The quotation from Draper that heads this issue of The People is the key with which to pick the locks of all the bills proposed, all the laws enacted, all the discussions rendered by the legislatures of the land to-day. That key opens the secret of the inextricable tangle.

A social system, that rests upon the private ownership of the things that man needs to produce the necessities of life, is a social system that rests upon a banana-peel. Steadiness is impossible with such a slippery foundation. Life becomes a scene of uncertainty. The shopkeeper, who one day imagined his future safe, where sobriety, intelligence and thirst caused him to feel his rear, flanks and front protected, finds himself the next day a heap of ruins. Causes over which he had no control and which were, without his knowledge, undermining his foothold, suddenly, as it seems, pulled him down into ruin. The bigger capitalist who, accepting the theory of his social system, looks upon society as a jungle in which the "fittest" survives, and who, having successfully proved himself the "fittest" by the ruination of less "fit" ones, had come to consider himself as "fit"-proof, unexpectedly finds himself laid prone alongside of those whom he had before cut "fitted," himself now ruined by a combination of circumstances as fortuitous as the weather. The workingman, industrious and attentive to his work, taking his inspiration from the capitalist professors, politicians and pulpits, imagines he is himself the architect of his home, toils and moils—and presently finds himself thrown out of work, his home shattered, his family scattered to the four winds. With one and all of these types—and of all the shades between them, through the whole gamut of society—the evil day comes upon them through no fault of their own, very much like a thunderbolt from a clear sky. The human race, in the days of its utter ignorance regarding natural science, felt simply cowed down by what seemed to it an Omnipotent force. It bowed meekly to what it called "the will of God." The race has emancipated itself from that thralldom to Ignorance of Nature. Society, however, is not yet emancipated from the savage stage of thralldom to Ignorance of Sociology. At its stage of thralldom to Ignorance of Nature Society prostrated itself before a fandango of its own creation. At its still prevalent stage of thralldom to Ignorance of Sociology we find the spokesmen of capitalist society resorting to measures which they call "laws," but which, being emanations of a social state of uncertainty, speedily prove themselves to be but "expedients," which the relentless course of events speedily bursts through.

Pitiful is the picture presented by our National legislators seeking to harness capitalist society, a social state of uncertainty. The Aldriches and the Forkers and the La Follettes in Washington with financial and railroad and tariff bills, the Hugheses in Albany with anti-racing bills, the craft unionists with anti-immigration schemes—all bump their noses at each turn against some special interest, and all, standing on the banana-peel of capitalism, bump their noses against one another.

The Age of Law awaits the advent of Socialism. "Law"-making, to-day, is a social St. Vitus's dance.

Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third, the year.

SHALL THE WOLF POLICE THE WOLF?

The Nebraska Democratic platform is justly considered as a pronouncement that strikes the keynote to the National platform, which the party will promulgate at Denver. The keynote of the Nebraska document is found in the plank which demands Federal laws that "will protect persons and places against discrimination and extortion by railroads"—in other words, a demand for Federal laws against capitalist outrage.

Of whom is the Federal Government made up? Is it made up of Senators and Representatives from Nebraska or Florida, from Vermont or Nevada, from Montana or Rhode Island? In the form, the Federal Government is made up in that way; not in the essence. In the essence the Federal Government is made up of Princes of Railroad principalities; of Dukes of Factory dukedoms; of Marquises of Mining marquisates; of Monarchs of Iron monarchies; of Caliphs of Cotton caliphates; of Pashas of Press pashaliks; of Satraps of Tobacco satrapies; of Brigadier-Generals of Brewery brigades; of Beglerbegs of Sugar beglerbegries; of Hesopards of Telegraph hesopardships; of Earls of Coffee earldoms; of Chams of Steamship chamefates; of Grand-Turks of Traction empires; of Sultans of Banking sultanates; of Three-Tailed-Bashaws of Bond three-tailed-bashawships;—in short, of Brigands, or the bailiffs of these, from the several provinces of the capitalist brigandom. No principality, dukedom, marquisate, monarchy, caliphate, pashalik, satrapy, brigade, beglerbegy, hesopardship, earldom, chamefate, empire, sultunate, or three-tailed-bashawship, etc., etc. is run for the benefit of the respective places or persons inhabiting them. One and all they are run for the comfort of their respective Princes, Dukes, Marquises, Monarchs, Caliphs, Pashas, Satraps, Brigadiers, Beglerbegs, Hesopards, Earls, Chams, Emperors, Sultans, Three Tailed-Bashaws, etc., etc. Ditto, ditto with the Brigands who run the capitalist realm of brigandage.

To apply, or look to the conclave of such elements for laws that will "protect persons and places against discrimination and extortion" is like applying, or looking to the wolf to police the wolves.

LET MARK TWAIN LOOK OUT.

There is in Michigan a man called Smith. "He is not the Smith whom you know," Artemus Ward would say, "he is an entirely different Smith." His name in full is William Alden Smith. He is a United States Senator from the State of Michigan; but more so than that, he is, as Artemus Ward would again say: "A most amusing cuss." As an evidence of his high humoristic powers, Smith the Senator objects to the Aldrich finance bill on the ground that "it would force the United States into government ownership of railroads." Of course, there is nothing funny in this. The high power of humor possessed by Smith the Senator appears in his reason for objecting to the United States government ownership of railroads. His objection is that government ownership of railroads "would give the railroads a voice in the dictation of legislature, and thereby throw the railroads into politics." Never did Mark Twain get off a juicer joke.

Imagine a hyena, with her snout in a carcass, objecting to have the relatives of the deceased trapping hyenas, on the ground that that would throw hyenas into the domestic concern of people. Imagine a burglar, with dark lantern and jimmy in a man's house, objecting to legislation that would clasp burglars behind penitentiary bars, on the grounds that such legislation would throw burglars into direct contact with the officers of the law whom they are supposed to eschew. Imagine the ward-heeler Silver-Dollar-Sullivan objecting to the municipality controlling the saloons because that would throw him into politics.—Imagine any of these pictures, and you have the droll picture of railroads objecting to government ownership because that "would throw them into politics."

The railroads are now in politics, up to their eye-brows in politics. They, that is to say, their owners, could not exist twenty-four hours if they were not in politics. It is their activity in politics that furnishes them with the courts and necessary physical force wherewith to keep the railroad workers at a pitance, sweating the vast dividends in which the owners wallow, and often losing limbs and life in the sweating process. Occasionally, an incautious agent of the railroads blurts out the truth. "If Tom Scott has no more bills for us," remarked one day an innocent member of the Pennsylvania Legislature, "I move that this Legislature adjourn." Tom Scott was, at the time, the Pennsylvania Railroad grande.

It happens with railroads what happens with all capitalist establishments. Their activity in politics is a nasty fact; so nasty that they seek to conceal it, and—acting obedient to that principle that ever causes intrigues to inveigh against those who would put an end to

their intrigues, accusing these of "intriguing"—the railroads raise the cry of "No Politics in the Railroads" as the droll means to conceal the fact of their feverish-political activity.

The joke is good, as made by Smith the Senator. Mark Twain has a living competitor.

THE STUMBLING BLOCK TO EDUCATION.

H. P. Baumer, a Columbia University law student living on bread and milk in order to complete his course—such is the sight afforded by this best of all possible systems, capitalism.

Who is Baumer? He is a young licensed coastwise pilot, who has served his time before the mast in different waters, and who now wishes to become an admiralty lawyer. As such he typifies the rising young generation of America, disinherited wage-earners by birth, who find every door of opportunity shut against them by the economic usurpation of the master class. Occasionally one such, by self-denial, by bitter skimping and starving is able successfully to pursue the studies which open up to him another field than that of manual drudgery. The fat dividends made in the correspondence school swindle indicate the volume of ambition which vainly beats itself out against the walls of economic dependence. When, for very rarity one succeeds in getting through, the capitalist class puts him on the back, and smugly urges the other struggling millions to go and do likewise. Not only that, but having first carefully rendered it as difficult as possible for a young workingman to secure an education, this same capitalist class looks upon itself as the one supreme educator, and credits to the very obstacles it throws in the way of progress, the progress which is made over those obstacles.

Princes, Dukes, Marquises, Monarchs, Caliphs, Pashas, Satraps, Brigadiers, Beglerbegs, Hesopards, Earls, Chams, Emperors, Sultans, Three Tailed-Bashaws, etc., etc. Ditto, ditto with the Brigands who run the capitalist realm of brigandage.

The logic of events will settle the rest—with the result that there will be four more years of the Teddy police, which may bring things to a head in the next four years, with the S. L. P. in the van, as it has hitherto been.

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The pity, and 'tis true, and pity 'tis 'tis true that the present shape of the proletariat is such that, as yet, it is not in condition to rise in all its majesty, and take the reins of government. The next best thing for all those, who are clear enough on the situation, to do is to let the Democratic Old Dame try her conclusions with the Republican despots, and themselves, in the meantime, rally around the banner of the Socialist Labor Party—the only class-conscious political expression of the proletariat, and there record their protest.

The logic of events will settle the rest—with the result that there will be four more years of the Teddy police, which may bring things to a head in the next four years, with the S. L. P. in the van, as it has hitherto been.

SOCIALISM NOT DESIRED?

In an address delivered before the Union League of Chicago on Saturday, Washington's Birthday, Governor Hughes of New York uttered himself in the following words:

"The people of this country do not desire Socialism even as an experiment."

These words again serve as a flashlight illuminating the position occupied by the Hughes class under our Government. That position is one of class ruling class.

The employing class has so long been used to the privilege of legislating in its own interests that it almost believes that only itself has the power of making the laws. In line with this belief it has in the many campaigns decided what legislative measures are of "public concern." It has decided that Tariffs or Anti-Tariff are the particular issues of the day; or that Silver and Gold, Trust and Anti-Trust, or Imperialism were the questions for the country to consider. And with the aid of its press, professors, and politicians, it has so far handed out the "paramount" issues to voters. Thinking that what has worked so far will work forever, it seeks to determine itself whether or not Socialism shall be presented to the people for a decision. And Mr. Hughes has already decided that the country does not want Socialism.

But this position will avail the Hugheses nothing. No more than the determining of the question of the "Rights of Man" lay with Louis XVI.

and his courtiers; no more than the question of "these States are of right free and independent" lay with George III; no more than the overthrow of the Russian autocracy lies with the Czar—so much and no more does the question of granting Socialism lie with the capitalists.

And well must the workingman learn this lesson. The words and acts of Mr. Hughes, and other public men, by the Republican or Democratic, are spoken and exerted in behalf of a social and economic order which creates abundance of wealth on one side, and hunger and want on the other. The legislative deeds of those men reflect activities in behalf of measures which leave unlegislated the needs of the workingman, observe but the present state of the country. The working class gets nothing from the hands of the master class and it never will because the material interests of that class are directly opposed to the interests of labor. The political fight is the reflection of the economic fight, a fight for the product of labor. And therefore the working class dare not look to the Hugheses for salvation. It is not by looking to the powers that be that something will be gotten for us, but it is by looking to ourselves and taking ourselves the public powers that we can get anything.

The Socialist Movement is a historic movement; it is a revolutionary movement, the same as was that of the rising of the small traders and shopkeepers in the days of the titled aristocrats. Not with the governing class rests the decision that the "country does not desire Socialism," but with the governed class lies that word, and the increasing recognition of Socialism by those "higher up" is the best evidence of the desire of the country for the Socialist regime. Socialism is the growing desire of the working class of the land and no amount of saying nay can hide the fact.

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# INDUSTRIAL IDLENESS

THE "WON'T WORK" ARGUMENT AGAINST SOCIALISM KNOCKED INTO A COCKED HAT.

About six months ago, says The Craftsman Magazine, we published some extracts from Prince Kropotkin's book, "The Conquest of Bread," in which the noted Russian thinker discussed the relation of art to life and the possibility of emancipating woman from the drudgery of the kitchen through the agency of co-operation aided by an extended use of machinery.

From the same book, which, whether we agree with it or not, is most productive of food for thought, we here publish some further extracts in which Prince Kropotkin gives his views concerning the objection that is frequently urged against co-operation; namely, the difficulty of dealing with the problem of laziness in such a way as to overcome the alleged unwillingness of man to work unless driven by the whip of hunger. In referring to this, he says:

"The objection is known. If the existence of each is guaranteed, and if the necessity of earning wages does not compel men to work, nobody will work. Every man will lay the burden of his work on another if he is not forced to do it himself. Let us first remark the incredible levity with which this objection is raised, without taking into consideration that the question is in reality merely to know, on the one hand, whether you effectively obtain by wage-work the results you aim at; and, on the other hand, whether voluntary work is not already more productive to-day than work stimulated by wages.

"What is most striking in this levity is that even in capitalist political economy you already find a few writers compelled by facts to doubt the axiom put forth by the founders of their science, that the threat of hunger is man's best stimulant for productive work. They begin to see that in production a certain collective element is introduced which has been too much neglected up till now, and which might be more important than personal gain. The inferior quality of wage-work, the terrible waste of human energy in modern agricultural and industrial labor, the ever-growing quantity of pleasure-seekers, who to-day load their burdens on others' shoulders, the absence of a certain animation in production that is becoming more and more apparent; all this begins to preoccupy the economists of the 'classical' school. Some of them ask themselves if they have not got on the wrong track; if the imaginary evil being that was supposed to tempt exclusively by a bait of lucre or wages, really exists. This heresy penetrates even into universities; it is found in books of orthodox economy.

"This is why a free society, seeing the number of idlers increasing in its midst, would no doubt think of looking for the cause of laziness, in order to suppress it, before having recourse to punishment. When it is a case, as we have already mentioned, of simple bloodlessness, then, before stuffing the brain of a child with science, nourish his system so as to produce blood, strengthen him, and, that he shall not waste his time, take him to the country or to the sea-side; there, teach him in the open air, not in books—geometry, by measuring the distance to a spire or the height of a tree; natural sciences, while picking flowers and fishing in the sea; physical science, while building the boat he will go fishing in. But for mercy's sake do not fill his brain with sentences and dead languages.

"Such a child has neither order nor regular habits. Let first the children inculcate order among themselves, and, later on, the laboratory, the workshop, work done in a limited space, with many tools about, will teach them method. But do not make disorderly beings out of them by your school, whose only order is the symmetry of its benches, and which—true image of the chaos in its teaching—will never inspire anybody with the love of harmony, of consistency, and method in work.

"Do you not see that by your method of teaching framed by a ministry for eight million scholars, who represent eight million different capacities, you only impose a system good for mediocrities, conceived by an average of mediocrities? Your school becomes a university of laziness, as your prison is a university of crime. Make the school free, abolish your university grades, appeal to the volunteers of teaching; begin that way, instead of making laws against laziness which only serve to increase it.

"Give the workman who is compelled to make a minute particle of some object, who is stifled at his little tapping machine, which he ends by loathing, give him the chance of tilling the soil, fellling trees in the forest, sailing the seas in the teeth of a storm, dashing through space on an engine, but do not make an idler of him by forcing him all his life to attend to a small machine, to plough the head of a screw, or to drill the eye of a needle.

"Suppress the cause of idleness, and you may take it for granted that few individuals will really hate to work, and that there will be no need to manufacture a code of laws on their account."

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UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.  
BROTHER JONATHAN—I happened to come across a Socialist paper; I read the thing. Do you know that I find there is much good in Socialism?

UNCLE SAM—You don't say so!

B. J.—Yes; there are many good points in it. For instance, the nationalization of the railroads. That should be the first step.

B. J.—Yes, that's just what I mean; this individualistic way of doing things has run its course; the railroads are now, was it?

B. J.—No; wasn't it originally a private undertaking?

U. S.—So it was. Originally run individually; now it is run collectively. Accordingly, nationalization of the railroads now would not be the "first step" taken by society.

B. J.—Well, no; the nationalization of the mail business was done first.

U. S.—And how about the employees of the Post Office? Are they a happy, free lot of people?

B. J. (reflectively, with a distant look)



# CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

## SOCIAL PICTURE IN UNITED STATES.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I thought this comparison might be of interest: Gold on hand, U. S. Treasury, \$1,000,000,000; Unemployed workers in United States, estimated, 3,500,000.

Claudius.

Jamaica, L. I., March 2.

## OF THE RIGHT METAL.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—As I am aware that our Party needs the financial help of every comrade to the Organizing Fund, I will help as much as I can. Enclosed find an order for one dollar and fifty cents for that fund and I hope to do better by and by. Hoping the members of the Party in general and sympathizers in particular will do likewise.—I am,

Henry Piper Mematian.

Elyria, O., Feb. 10.

## AN APPRECIATED APPRECIATION.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed find \$2.00, donation to the Operating Fund from Local 67, I. W. W. Jersey City, N. J. This donation, made at a regular meeting of the Local, is a token of appreciation and thanks for the service rendered to the Industrial Union movement by the Daily and Weekly People—a service that no other daily paper would render.

F. Gerold, Secretary.

Jersey City, N. J., Feb. 23.

## HOLDERS OF MOVING FUND LISTS, TAKE NOTICE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I can not understand how comrades who call themselves S. L. P. men and revolutionists can be so negligent and have their names take up so much valuable space in our paper. I would be ashamed to have my name appear more than once under the head of the Moving Fund Lists still out.

Emanuel Hank.

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 25.

## CHICAGO WATCH SALE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—For the information of those interested in the disposal of a watch for the benefit of a worker in distress, which was dated for Jan. 25, at Friedman's Hall, Chicago, we wish to state that delay in holding sale was in order to enable those having stubs to send them in.

The watch has become the property of I. Mori, Blythedale, Pa., and has been forwarded to him.

H. J. Friedman,  
B. Fisher,  
Robt. Thumann,  
Committee.

## MUST HAVE MENTAL FOOD TOO.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed you will find one dollar for a three months' subscription of The Daily People. I have not read it since I left New York City, but can not be without it any longer. Although I have been out of work for three months, I would rather get along with less food and have the only Socialist paper in America that teaches the right way to get rid of the present financial and industrial panic and unemployment.

J. Proctor.  
Jamaica Plains, Mass., Feb. 21.

## ONE OF MANY.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—It is only fair to tell you how it is here. The workers are disgusted with two Socialist parties, and one is friendly with the A. F. of L. which teaches that Capital and Labor have one and the same interests, and whose leaders wine and dine with the manufacturers and rich men. "Why don't the two parties unite?" the workingmen say when I ask for subscriptions or for money. "Let the parties unite, we will not give money or work for such a farce. Throw out some of the leaders if necessary."

I am only telling you what we are up against.

L. Hawgensen.

Newton, N. J., Feb. 29.

## BAY CITY ITEMS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Some time ago a Socialist party local was started here with a membership of about fifty men. I was invited to go with them but I refused, believing that the men at the head of the organization are job-seekers. Some of them are looking for jobs in the United

conditions in the East, says: "Send the unemployed to Frisco—we have lots of room and plenty of work at good wages. We can use them all in rebuilding the city."

The Citizens' Alliance has already established an employment office, or, in other words, the up-to-date slave market, free of charge to any one wishing to offer himself to a master.

On a conservative estimate, there are at least twenty thousand men in the unemployed army in this city, and the ranks are being swelled with large numbers every day. We have our soup houses and bread lines, also our Jungle.

Speaking of the Jungle, a bomb was thrown the other day in the shape of a report by Dr. J. C. Hurley of the Federal Sanitary Corps, who, with Dr. Blue, has charge of the situation here in stamping out the bubonic plague. This is what Dr. Hurley says about the packing houses in Butcher town:

"Filth that it is almost impossible to describe, an accumulation of offal and refuse, a sewer open to the heavens and running its filthy course through the very midst of the abattoirs, putrid meat floating in the bay, hordes of rats feeding on the scraps unmolested and even gnawing at the products intended for market—this is a sample of the conditions existing in 'Frisco' Jungle. Sinclair's graphic account of the Chicago Jungle is mild in comparison to the filthy, nauseating, unsanitary conditions existing in the newly discovered plague-infested Jungle of 'Frisco'."

James Walsh.

San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 21.

## AS TO MRS. EDDY.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The issue of the Weekly People, Jan. 4, contains an item under the heading of "Echoes," stating Mrs. Eddy's \$1,000,000 plan to instruct the indigent in Christian Science. The above mentioned item has somewhat the tone of sarcasm. Mrs.

Eddy's plan does not of course appeal to Socialists generally, and being a religious movement has nothing to do with Socialism industrially or politically. Mrs. Eddy does not claim to be infallible nor her students unerring, and we will admit that if the \$1,000,000 spoken of were scattered broadcast over the country in order to alleviate the pangs of hunger it would not amount to more than sprinkling little drops of water on the heads of a thirsty and famishing people in the desert.

But, on the other hand, if Mrs. Eddy can comfort anyone through her teachings of metaphysics, her plan should be respected. Her teachings are generally misunderstood or misconstrued. She has already through her teachings and interpretations done more towards annihilating the fears of death and quenching the flames of hell than any other sect or creed on earth, and has made optimists of pessimists. Investigation finds her scientific treatment of the sick a wonderful twentieth century discovery.

Mrs. Eddy's philosophy is in advance of the age, and, like other great leaders, will not generally be respected until she passes on. We as Socialists should not grieve over this expenditure of money; we must emancipate ourselves independently of religious sentiments. In the meantime, if anyone can gather but the smallest fragment of comfort from Christian Science, it should not be ignored, exaggerated, misconstrued, nor ridiculed.

I here quote a few lines from Mrs. Eddy's text book, "Science and Health," pp. 225 and 226, line 31. "The rights of man were vindicated in a single section and on the lowest plane of human life, when African slavery was abolished in our land. That was only prophetic of further steps towards the banishment of a more widespread slavery, found on higher planes of existence and under more subtle and depressing forms."

C. H. Spike.

Dome City, Ala., Feb. 7.

## NAILING A SLANDER.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The below is a letter which was sent to the Boston "Traveler," but which when printed by that paper was emasculated.

F. J. R.

## SOCIALISM AND FREE LOVE.

Editor of The Traveler:—

The contention of your correspondent "Jeffersonian" that "free love" is a tenet of Socialism, as adduced from certain so-called Socialist writers, evidences a confounding of private opinion with the avowed economic principles of the organized Socialist movement. Socialism is purely an economic question, dealing with present industrial conditions, and only purposes "placing the land and all the means of production, transportation and distribution into the hands of the people as a collective body, and substituting the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder—a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of civilization." (National Platform of the Socialist Labor Party.)

The organized Socialist movement could no more discuss with authoritative

## AS TO UNITY

[From the Jewish "Warheit" (Independent Socialist), March 2, 1908, in answer to an article in the Jewish "Vorwaerts" (S. P.), which applauds the action of the S. P. National Committee in declining to accept the S. L. P. invitation for Unity.]

ed that the members, the rank and file, should be against Unity.

No one can lead nor mislead anyone by force.

However wicked and cunning the present leaders of the S. L. P. may be, they cannot force the S. P. to change its policy and its leaders, except with the consent of the S. P. itself. And the more truth there is in the arguments of the S. P. leaders that they are big and the S. L. P. small, all the less truth is there in their arguments that, by uniting the parties, their whole present policy will suffer shipwreck.

The arguments of the wire-pullers of the S. P. may sound nicely and convincingly to the ears of men who consider POLITICS AS A BUSINESS, AND SOCIALIST PARTIES A SOCIALIST BUSINESS. From this point of view it might be correct to say: Why new partners if our business is prospering with the old ones?

But the leaders of the S. P. do not understand that, while their point of view might appeal to THEMSELVES and to their like, it can not and will not appeal to PEOPLE WHO LOOK UPON SOCIALISM AS UPON A HIGHER ASPIRATION OF THEIR SOUL AND UNDERSTANDING.

The arguments of the wire-pullers of the S. P. leaders will be repudiated by all those for whom the great motto of Socialism "Workingmen of all countries unite!" is not merely a grand phrase for a grand speech on a grand stand, but the essence, the heart, the very foundation of the future of Humanity.

We have hitherto discussed the question from the standpoint of pure principle, without touching upon the persons, without drawing comparisons and parallels.

Seeing, however, that the enemies of Unity advance as the main argument against Unity the person and the acts of the leader of the S. L. P., Daniel De Leon, we shall here, adhering to much of what we said about De Leon in the past, just remark, that we know of no difference between De Leon and the leaders of the S. P., neither in tendency, nor in character, nor in methods and policy of fight, with the only difference that De Leon, whenever he does anything, he does it with ability and courage, and the gentleman leaders of the S. P. do it without ability and as cowards.

"Why," argue the gentlemen of the victorious S. P., "should we allow our enemies, the leaders of the S. L. P., who are soon to disappear from the scene anyhow, to gain new ground, new strength, and lead a new army?"

Those are correct and strong arguments, if one takes the position of the personal advantages of the leaders and wire-pullers of the Socialist Party.

While we do understand why it does not pay the present leaders of the S. P. to allow into their party the leaders of the S. L. P., while it is quite conceivable why the wire-pullers of the Socialist Party are against Unity—it remains entirely inconceivable to take for granted

certainly possible social conditions under a state of society not yet existent, than it could view with certainty the possible phases of celestial life in Heaven, so often the theme of "inspired" theologians. In either case the theories advanced are merely speculative.

In Bebel's notable work, "Woman under Socialism," De Leon, in his preface to the American edition, clearly states:

"The moment the field of the known is abandoned, and one launches out into pictures of future forms, a wide field is opened for speculation. Differences of opinion start over that which is probable or not probable. That which in that direction is set forth in this book, can, accordingly, be taken only as the personal opinion of the author himself; possible attacks must be directed against him only; only his is responsible." The same may be said of other writers.

De Leon, as the foremost Socialist in America to-day, in praising the idealism of the monogamous state of marriage, as outlined in Bebel's work, declares that

"The moral, as well as the material, creations of the race's intellect, since it unclosed out of early Communism, bar, to my mind, all prospect—I would say, danger, moral and hygienic, of promiscuity, or of anything even remotely approaching that." Does that sound like an advocacy of "free love" under Socialism?

Of course, it is generally conceded that the marriage institution is not immutable in its form, and that the present monogamous state reflects the development of property and physiological theories, as when its former plural form reflected the theory of necessitous prolificity, even to the marriage of brother and sister. In the patriarchal age it was common for women of sterility to countenance their husband taking other wives for the sake of progeny, the same being done for the honor of the God of Israel. If "Jeffersonian" will take the trouble of studying Bible history he will find many incidents therein related of how "free love" prevailed under the generous patronage of Abraham, Jacob, Esau, Solomon, and other prophets and patriarchs, even down to Luther of the Reformation.

The Knight's mills are to curtail production 25 per cent. This will affect the work-people in the Pawtucket Valley, who have heretofore felt the panic hadn't touched 'em.

Brown and Sharpe's, it is said, are running but three days a week, eight hours a day.

## LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

J. F. MCKEESPORT, PA.—Now to your last question—

Who is to re-imburse, under Socialism, the man who is now in possession and who holds title to the land which the poor man would use? Who?—The same body that will re-imburse the capitalist for the capital which the capitalist now holds, and without which the poor man could not earn his salt. Who is that body? Society, which would guarantee to every being his social share in the vast product of Socialist society, and would afford to every one, able to work, the opportunity to contribute his share.

Get from the Labor News the pamphlet, "Two Pages from Roman History." Read the "Second Page"—"The Warning of the Gracchi," pp. 73-75, for a supplementary answer on "Confiscation."

F. J. B., BOSTON, MASS.—The Cooperative Commonwealth will not determine the income of each worker. The income of each worker will be determined by himself. If he works he has income; if he doesn't he has no income. His income, if he works, will be the full social share of his product.

Next question next week.

J. V., NEW YORK.—Whether the Socialist Labor Party will put up a campaign, dear? The S. L. P. will put up a campaign that will make the head swim of every visionary in the land.

T. A. W., WEST HOBOKEN, N. J.—First, see above. Secondly, whether the rank and file of the Socialist party will resent the insult placed upon them by their National Committee by disfranchising them on the matter of Unity with the S. L. P., and demand a referendum in time for this year's campaign, we know not. The S. L. P., like Napoleon, can "negotiate while fighting." If a fight their National Committee want, a fight they'll have.

E. D. O'B., PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Besides all that, the Single Tax is far from being "Socialism applied to land." For instance: The Single Tax would leave the land to the landlord, and tax him the land value, minus a percentage for collecting the same. Socialism treats the landlord as it treats the capitalist. It surely is a waste of time for the I. W. W. man to work in such a party. That much for the S. P. man. But if a man who claims to be an S. L. P. man and an I. W. W. man holds the same language as to the S. P. man, such a man probably is not an S. L. P. man, because it is a dishonest position for an S. L. P. man to take. If, indeed, an S. L. P. man were to hold such a position, he is not saying what he means, and he does not say what he means because he is ashamed to say it, and he can not be blamed for being ashamed of what he is really after. The honorable S. L. P. man who holds that S. P. man's views would leave the S. L. P. Any other course is dishonorable.

H. H. R., CHAMPAIGN, ILL.—Now to your last question—

The class struggle is not a "political and not an economic one." The class struggle is an economic one, and, therefore, essentially political. For instance: When in an A. F. of L. craft union, which adheres to the "Brotherhood of Capital and Labor" theory, a demand is made for better treatment, and the demand is enforced with a strike, the move is purely economic. It is that only because the aim does not contemplate the overthrow of the social system, but its confirmation with more "friendly relations." That's no class struggle, and consequently has no political aspect.

The class struggle manifests itself in economic demands that do contemplate the overthrow of capitalism, such ultimate aim is necessarily political. For what reason, and how it comes about that the term "political" is perniciously applied, read the pamphlet "As to Politics," especially pp. 67-71.

J. H. H., QUINCY, ILL.—Now to your last question—

The scheme of buying out the capitalists and then taxing them out of their bonds is one of those schemes that Marx refuted by characterizing with the philosophical observation that "you can not revolutionize society behind its back." The capitalist class has the correct instinct of its class. It is not going to be caught in any such trap. Nor could the scheme gather the pulse necessary to reach its ultimate aim.

W. D. R., WARREN, PA.—Now to your last question—

There is no printed work extant on the present conduct of the craft union organization. There is, however, a very eloquent work thereon. It is a living work. It is the present dependent and

abject condition of the working class. Everyone can read that book. It is open everywhere, and in very clear type.

C. J. W., NEW HAVEN, CONN.—Of course, if the saloon and liquor business were outlawed, the capitalists would seek other fields of investment. That point is of no importance. The important point is the error of imagining that the capitalist class would wait until its breweries, etc., were shut up by law before "investing." They will start "investing" before that day. They will "invest," as they do now, in politicians to protect their industries from being outlawed. It is easier to stab the tiger at its heart than to pull his whiskers.

Labor would waste its time in tugging at the whiskers of capitalism; it can be more easily overthrown by class-conscious industrial organization, and political organization under the class-conscious banner of the S. L. P.

A

**OFFICIAL**

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.  
Henry Kuhn, National Secretary pro tem.  
28 City Hall Place.  
CANADIAN S. L. P.  
National Secretary, W. D. Forbes,  
412 Wellington Road, London, Ont.  
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.  
(The Party's literary agency.)  
28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.  
Notice—For technical reasons no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p.m.

A CALL TO AID THE PROPAGANDA  
OF THE S. L. P.  
To the Sections of the Socialist Labor Party.

GREETING:  
The N. E. C. sub-committee instructed the undersigned to present to you an arrangement made with comrades Frank F. Young and Joseph Campbell and to urge your active co-operation.

The two comrades proposed to act as volunteer organizers and canvassers for the Party press and Party literature on the following conditions: Both are to travel and work as a team, holding meetings, gathering subscriptions to the Party organs and selling Party literature. To sustain them in this work, they are to receive a commission of 30 per cent on subscription cards and literature sales, but as that alone would not suffice to meet expenses, a fund is to be started, to be known as the "Literature Fund," and out of that fund purchases of literature and subscription cards are to be made.

A Party sympathizer, taking a special interest in the plan proposed, offered to cover the initial expenses in order to get the work started and so it is understood, will continue to hear a helping hand provided the Party membership will lend such support as to insure an uninterrupted continuation of the work.

In keeping with the plan outlined above, the undersigned will receive contributions to the Literature Fund, the money received to be turned over to the Labor News Co. and to be drawn against by comrades Young and Campbell in literature and subscription cards.

All contributions will be credited to the Party press.

Henry Kuhn,  
National Secretary pro tem.  
28 City Hall Place.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The State Executive Committee, Massachusetts, Socialist Labor Party, met at 1165 Tremont street, Boston, Friday, March 6, with Duffy in the chair. Present: Lidberg, Starnfeldt, Mulligan, Grotchfield and Duffy.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

Communications: From Manager of Daily and Weekly People upon seizing the opportunity to increase the circulation of the party press. From J. Hayes of Leominster upon local conditions. From Section Pittsfield, financial report. From Section Salem in regard to local matters. From Secretary Kuhn, voting blanks for the office of National Secretary. From Sections Boston, Worcester, Lynn, and member at large James Hayes nominating the following as delegates to the National Convention: T. F. Brennan of Salem, M. Rutherford of Holyoke; A. E. Reimer of Boston; W. J. Hoar of Worcester; J. Claudio of New Bedford; A. Barnes of Fall River; J. H. Hagan of Lynn; W. H. Carroll, and J. Sweeney of Boston.

Secretary reported having sent out the calls and voting banks for National Secretary. He was instructed to urge Sections take advantage of the opportunity and push the sales of party papers.

John Sweeney,  
Secretary.

GENERAL AGITATION FUND.  
Received since last acknowledgement the following items:

Henry Piper, Ohio	\$ 1.50
On List No. 996, per W. Hammerlind, Washington, D. C. from—	
M. R. George	3.50
Albert Touroff	1.00
W. Hammerlind	1.00
B. Pollet	2.00
C. Horvath	.50
J. B. Flynn	.25
G. Frederighi	.25
A. Klein	1.00
L. Roess	1.00
Mario M. Giovannicello	.75
Fred Hoffman, Monroe, Colo.	1.00
Total	\$13.75

Contributions to this fund, which is designed to keep in the field speakers and organizers, should be sent to the undersigned.

Henry Kuhn,  
National Secretary pro tem.  
Box 1576, New York City.

**N. J. STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The regular meeting of the New Jersey State Executive Committee will be held on SUNDAY, March 15, at Helvetia Hall, 56 Van Houten street, at 3 o'clock sharp. Nominations by the sections of Hudson County for State officers must be in the hands of secretary at this meeting.

J. C. Butterworth, Sec'y.

**OPERATING FUND.**

During the week ending March 7th, we received \$265 to the Operating Fund. Considering the fact that the income from subscriptions and Labor News sales did not begin to cover, it can readily be seen that the contributions to this fund did not help out materially. We would a thousand times rather have revenue derived from subscriptions, etc., but if you don't furnish the funds that way we are compelled to ask for this kind of support. It is up to you to keep your institutions going.

John Keegan, Cleveland, O. 25  
J. Greenwood, Newark, N. J. 1.00  
J. Schwenk, Jersey City, .50  
Comrade, W. Hoboken N. J. 1.00  
C. Kensinger, Camden, N. J. .25  
P. May, Edgewater, N. J. .50  
E. Evans, Tacoma, Wash. .50  
J. P. Hansen, " 1.00  
H. Tryon, Denver, Colo. .25  
J. Jiskra, Milford, Mass. .50  
C. Durmer, Phila, Pa. .90  
W. Skrocki, Vallejo, Cal. 1.00  
M. Goldstandt, Cleveland, .50  
F. Krahenbuehl, Globeville, Mich. .50  
Total ..... \$ 8.65  
Previously acknowledged .. 1,849.92  
Grand total ..... \$1,858.57

**DETROIT COMMUNE CELEBRATION.**

Section Detroit, Socialist Labor Party, has arranged to celebrate the Paris Commune in Coloma Hall, 255 Gratiot Ave., SUNDAY, March 15, at 2:30 p. m. Wm. E. Bohn, Instructor in Rhetoric at the University of Michigan, will be the principal speaker. Theme: "The Lessons of the Paris Commune." The program will be announced at hall. All comrades and readers should not forget the date and place and bring along your friends. Admission free.

**CHICAGO COMMUNE FESTIVAL.**

Section Chicago, S. L. P., is arranging to hold a Commune Festival on Sunday, March 15, at Friedman's Hall, Grand and Western ave., Chicago, Ill. The affair will begin at 3 p. m. with concert and vaudeville features. After these there will be an appropriate half-hour speech on the "Lessons of the Paris Commune." The rest of the evening will be devoted to a Ball and Fair. Good dance music will be provided and everything possible done to make the Festival a success. The section needs a Canvassers' Fund. The proceeds of this entertainment will be given for that purpose. Admission will be only 25 cents, with wardrobe free. Those wishing to donate some articles to the Fair please send same to H. J. Friedman, 876 Grand ave., who will acknowledge receipt. Watch this column for details of program. Readers of Daily and Weekly People, help us to make this affair successful.

**Entertainment Committee.****GRAND COMMUNE CELEBRATION IN CLEVELAND, OHIO.**

The annual commemoration of the Paris Commune, arranged by Section Cleveland, Socialist Labor Party, takes place Saturday, March 21, at Acme Hall (formerly Germania Hall), East Ninth street (old Erie street), and commences at 8 p. m. sharp. As in former years, an excellent programme has been worked out.

The "Socialistische Liedertafel," S. L. P., under direction of their able leader, Professor Hamm, will sing the two beautiful compositions, "Am Altar der Wahrheit" (At the Altar of Truth) and "Bet und Arbeit" (Pray and work, so you are told). Recitations and songs by famous soloists will complete the programme. The "headliner," however, will be a play in German—"Der Trunkenbold" (The Drunkard), a drama on proletarian life, in one act. This play is from the pen of comrade Rich Koepel, the editor of our German party organ, under whose personal management it will be presented. All parts will be taken by talented comrades who will make it a point of honor to play them well.

In connection with the play a GRAND TABLEAU will be produced. After the programme a ball follows. Tickets, including lady and gentleman, are 25 cents in advance, and can be had from all comrades and at the office of the German Party organ, 310 Champlain Avenue, second floor.

Comrades, friends and sympathizers: This is one great annual affair of Section Cleveland, and it is up to you to help to make it the usual great success and if possible to do even better than before. Buy your tickets in time and invite all your friends to be our guests on SATURDAY, March 21. A splendid, enjoyable time is guaranteed to everyone.

Workingman.

**BUFFALO PEDRO PARTY AND DANCE**

Section Erie County, Socialist Labor Party, will have a Pedro Party and Dance on SATURDAY evening, March 21, at Florence Parlors, 527 Main street. All members, friends and sympathizers are invited to take part in the good time.

**BUFFALO LECTURES.**

Free lectures and discussion are held every Sunday afternoon, 3:30 o'clock, SUNDAY, March 15.—"Paris Commune and the Lessons to Be Learned." Speaker, Leander A. Armstrong.

**ATTENTION, WAGE WORKERS OF DENVER.**

Section Denver, Socialist Labor Party, will hold a Mass Meeting WEDNESDAY, March 18th, at 8 p. m., Upper Howe Hall, 1548 California street. Commemoration of the Anniversary of the Paris Commune.

Everybody welcome; admission free.

**ATTENTION, HARTFORD.**

As in the past, so this year also will Section Hartford celebrate the event of the Paris Commune. The oration of the day will be delivered by Frank Bohn of New York. Dancing will follow.

The affair will take place on SATURDAY, March 21, sharp at 8 p. m., at S. L. P. Hall, 34 Elm street.

**Ladies, Take Notice.**

As several of our lady friends have expressed the desire to form a club of Socialist Women and thus become an auxiliary in the Movement, therefore, to realize this object, Frank Bohn will address, for this purpose, a meeting to be held SUNDAY, March 22, at 3 p. m., at the same place, S. L. P. Hall, 34 Elm Street.

Note: Party officers and others re-

**GET READY FOR SPRING**

PUSH THE PROPAGANDA NOW—SEED TIME PRECEDES THE HARVEST.

For the week ending March 6th, we received 148 subs to the Weekly People, and 69 mail subs to the Daily People, a total of 217 for the week. The previous week's total was 250.

Those sending five or more were: J. A. Leach, Phoenix, Ariz.; W. J. Wuest, Utica, N. Y.; J. Breuer, Hartford, Conn.; A. Gillhaus, San Francisco, Cal.; F. Brown, Cleveland, O., 5. Prepaid cards: Denver, Colo., \$3.50.

Those pushing the Daily People are keeping at the work very well, the mail subscriptions running double what they did formerly. There is great room though for improvement all around in the mail list of the Daily People.

This week a comrade from a town of 80,000 inhabitants was asked how many readers he supposed could be secured for the Daily People there. He thought easily 100, and he was greatly surprised to learn that but fifteen papers go to that town. He promises to set the Party machinery of his town in motion and not to rest satisfied until the Daily People has one hundred readers there. We shall watch his efforts with much interest.

We are getting out new issues of some of the standard pamphlets and will add two or three new ones later on. Push the propaganda. Send in 500 Weekly People subs a week and that will provide funds with which to get out literature.

**MOVING FUND LISTS STILL OUT.**

A large number of Press Security League Moving Fund Subscription Lists are still outstanding and repeated calls in The People and by personal letter have failed to secure their return. On some of the lists money has been turned in, but on others no money has been received. Holders of lists are hereby notified to return them at once to A. C. Kuhn, 28 City Hall Place, New York City, whether monies have been collected thereon or not.

(This list will be kept standing in The People until all lists are returned.) Outstanding P. S. L. Moving Fund Subscription Lists.

List 21 and 22—J. B. Gerberg, Grand Junction, Colo.  
" 26—A. D. Sandee, New Britain, Conn.  
" 26—T. M. Davis, Chicago, Ill.  
" 45—G. E. Dimmitt, Springfield, Ill.  
" 46—F. Fritz, Evansville, Ind.  
" 50—L. Lewis, Pittsburgh, Kan.  
" 53—M. Scopes, Paducah, Ky.  
" 54—C. Becher, Baltimore, Md.  
" 62 and 63—F. Worster, Lawrence, Mo.  
" 70—H. Hellberg, Somerville, Mass.  
" 71—F. A. Nagier, Springfield, Mass.  
" 72—W. H. O'Brien, Woburn, Mass.  
" 81—J. P. Johnson, Duluth, Minn.  
" 87—C. Kruss, Red Lake Falls, Minn.  
" 95, 96, 97, 98, and 99—P. Hertz, St. Louis, Mo.  
" 100, 101, and 102—G. A. Johnson, Newark, N. J.  
" 104—J. Eck, Hoboken, N. J.  
" 117—J. Wallace, New Brunswick, N. J.  
" 121, 122, 123—B. Reinstein, Buffalo, N. Y.  
" 128 and 129—M. Neuhaus, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
" 136—J. McGarvey, Newburgh, N. Y.  
" 139, 140, 144, 145, 161, 162, 163, 164, and 165—Section New York, S. L. P.  
" 168—A. Chambers, Corona, N. Y.  
" 169—J. H. Milton, West New Brighton, S. L. N. Y.  
" 173, 175, 176, 177—J. T. Noonan, Schenectady, N. Y.  
" 178 and 179—T. Trainor, Syracuse, N. Y.  
" 180, 181 and 182—T. Dean, Troy, N. Y.  
" 188—T. Boyce, Buctel, Ohio.  
" 189 and 190—H. H. T. Jurgens, Canton, Ohio.  
" 197 and 204—J. D. Goarke, Cleveland, Ohio.  
" 207—D. W. Wallace, Hollister, O.  
" 208—J. Reidel, Mineral City, O.  
" 209—J. Slater, Somerdale, Ohio.  
" 210—C. S. Covert, Youngstown, O.  
" 220—J. Barron, Dixon City, Pa.  
" 240—D. L. Munro, Portsmouth, Va.  
" 253—D. O'Brien, Port Angeles, Wash.  
" 267—N. Hansen, West Superior, Wis.  
" 279—J. W. Reid, Toronto, Ont.  
" 283—W. Griffiths, Vancouver, B. C.  
" 286—Theo. Anderson, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.  
" 292—P. Vere, Heonig, Colo.  
" 302—W. Bonstein, Webb City, Mo.  
" 306—C. W. Ensign, Rotterdam Junction, N. Y.  
" 307—N. Negro, Canal Dover, Ohio.  
" 308—S. Barton, Damopps, Ohio.  
" 312—S. Christoff, Patten, Pa.

**SAN FRANCISCO COMMUNE CELEBRATION**

WILL BE HELD  
SATURDAY EVENING,  
MARCH 21, 1908, 8 O'CLOCK.

AT  
STEDEMANN'S HALL,  
225 VALENCIA ST.

BET. 13TH AND 14TH STS.

FOR BENEFIT OF THE PARTY PRESS.

GOOD MUSIC. DANCING.

TICKETS, 25c.

LADIES ADMITTED FREE.

**Grand Commemoration of the Paris Commune**

Arranged by—

**SECTION CLEVELAND, S. L. P.**

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, at ACME HALL (formerly Germania Hall).

East 9th St. (old Erie St.)

A splendid program will be rendered. Songs by the Socialistic Liedertafel, S. L. P. Recitations. Songs by famous soloists. Theatrical performance and tableau. The following play in German will be given for the first time. New!

"Der Trunkenbold" ("The Drunkard.")

A drama in one act from proletarian life, by Richard Koepel, editor of the German Party Organ, S. L. P.

After the program—BALL. Program commences at 8 o'clock sharp.

**TICKETS** (in advance) 25c, a couple.

To be had from all comrades and at office of German Party Organ, 310 Champlain ave., 2d floor. Tickets at the door, 50c.

**GRAND CONCERT**

By Members of the

**METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE ORCHESTRA**

LEO SCHULZ, Conductor.

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE

**Socialist Labor Party**

FOR THE

**DAILY PEOPLE**

AT  
Grand Central Palace

Lexington Ave., Bet. 43d and 44th Sts.

ON  
**Sunday, March 15, 1908**

AT 3 P. M.

EMINENT ARTISTS WILL ASSIST.

**CONCERT PROGRAM:**